

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-98 (Canceled).

99. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

placing a stimulator sleeve of a lancing device against a region of skin where nerve density is low and supply of body fluid is low, wherein the lancing device houses a first disposable that includes a lancet and a test strip;

cutting an incision in the skin at the region with the lancet of the first disposable;

expressing the body fluid from the incision with the stimulator sleeve;

drawing the body fluid into the test strip from the surface of the skin while the stimulator sleeves remains in contact with the skin;

analyzing the body fluid from the incision with the test strip of the first disposable;

discarding the first disposable after said analyzing; ~~and~~

loading a second disposable into the lancing device after said discarding the first disposable;

wherein the first disposable includes a capillary passage;

wherein said cutting the incision includes

firing the first disposable with the lancet, the test strip, and the capillary passage

towards the skin at the region, and

retracting the first disposable from the skin;

wherein the lancet, the test strip, and the capillary passage of the first disposable move

together as a single unit during said firing and said retracting; and

wherein said drawing the body fluid into the test strip includes

lowering the capillary passage into contact with the body fluid on the surface of

the skin after said retracting and said expressing, and

transporting via capillary action the body fluid from the surface of the skin to the

test strip through the capillary passage.

100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 99, further comprising:
detecting drop sufficiency of the body fluid with a drop detection mechanism in the
lancing device before said drawing.

101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 99, wherein said expressing includes
pressing the stimulator sleeve against the skin.

102. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 99, wherein the region of the skin
where nerve density is low and supply of body fluid is low is an earlobe or a limb.

103. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 99, wherein said analyzing the body
fluid includes optically analyzing the body fluid.

104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 99, wherein said analyzing the body
fluid includes electrochemically analyzing the body fluid.

105. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 104, further comprising:
wherein the test strip of the first disposable includes printed electrical circuit paths;
wherein the lancing device includes an electrochemical meter with electrical leads; and
contacting the electrical leads of the electrochemical meter to the printed electrical circuit
paths of the test strip of the first disposable.

106. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 105, wherein:
the first disposable includes a capillary passage;
said drawing the body fluid into the test strip includes lowering the capillary passage into
contact with the body fluid on the surface of the skin; and
said contacting the electrical leads occurs as a result of said lowering the capillary
passage.

107. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106, wherein:
the lancing device includes a pusher;
the pusher has the electrical leads;
said lowering the capillary passage into contact with the body fluid on the surface of the skin includes pushing the capillary passage down with the pusher; and
said contacting the electrical leads occurs as a result of said pushing the capillary passage down with the pusher.

108. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106, further comprising:
loading the first disposable into the lancing device; and
said contacting the electrical leads occurs after said loading the first disposable.

109. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 108, wherein said contacting the electrical leads occurs after said cutting the incision.

110. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 106, wherein:
said cutting the incision includes
firing the first disposable with the lancet, the test strip, and the capillary passage against the skin at the region, and
retracting the first disposable from the skin;
the lancet, the test strip, and the capillary passage of the first disposable move together as a single unit during said firing and said retracting; and
said lowering the capillary passage into contact with the body fluid on the surface of the skin occurs after said retracting.

Claim 111 (Canceled).

112. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~44~~ 99, wherein said drawing the body fluid into the test strip includes relieving backpressure by venting air through a vent opening.

Claims 113-116 (Canceled).

117. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

placing a lancing device against skin, wherein the lancing device houses a first disposable that includes a lancet, a test strip, and a capillary passage with a passage opening;

forming an incision in the skin, wherein said forming the incision includes firing the first disposable towards the skin, wherein during said firing the lancet, the test strip and the capillary passage of the first disposable move together as a single unit towards the skin;

positioning the passage opening of the capillary passage into contact with body fluid from the incision on the surface of the skin, wherein during said positioning the passage opening of the capillary passage extends past the lancet;

drawing via capillary action the body fluid on the surface of the skin into the capillary passage;

transporting the body fluid from the capillary passage to the test strip;

analyzing the body fluid from the incision with the test strip of the first disposable;

discarding the first disposable after said analyzing; and

loading a second disposable into the lancing device after said discarding the first disposable.

118. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 117, wherein the skin is located at a region where the supply of the body fluid is relatively low as compared to a fingertip.

119. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 118, further comprising expressing the body fluid from the incision before said drawing.

120. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 117, wherein the lancing device remains in contact with the skin during said positioning.

121. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 117, further comprising: wherein the lancing device includes a drop detecting mechanism; and detecting that a drop of the body fluid on the skin is of sufficient size with the drop detecting mechanism before said drawing.

Claims 122-127 (Canceled).

128. (New) The method of claim 121, further comprising: alerting a user of drop sufficiency with the lancing device.

129. (New) The method of claim 121, wherein said detecting includes electrically detecting the drop.

130. (New) The method of claim 121, wherein said detecting includes optically detecting the drop.

131. (New) The method of claim 117, wherein said analyzing the body fluid includes optically analyzing the body fluid.

132. (New) The method of claim 117, wherein said analyzing the body fluid includes electrochemically analyzing the body fluid.

133. (New) The method of claim 117, wherein the region of the skin where the supply of body fluid is relatively low is an earlobe or a limb.

134. (New) The method of claim 119, wherein said expressing includes pressing a stimulator sleeve of the lancing device against the skin.

135. (New) A method, comprising:

placing a stimulator sleeve of a lancing device against a region of skin where nerve density is low and supply of body fluid is low, wherein the lancing device houses a first disposable that includes a lancet and a test strip;

cutting an incision in the skin at the region with the lancet of the first disposable;

expressing the body fluid from the incision with the stimulator sleeve;

drawing the body fluid into the test strip from the surface of the skin while the stimulator sleeves remains in contact with the skin;

analyzing the body fluid from the incision with the test strip of the first disposable;

discarding the first disposable after said analyzing;

loading a second disposable into the lancing device after said discarding the first disposable;

wherein said analyzing the body fluid includes electrochemically analyzing the body fluid;

wherein the test strip of the first disposable includes printed electrical circuit paths;

wherein the lancing device includes an electrochemical meter with electrical leads;

contacting the electrical leads of the electrochemical meter to the printed electrical circuit paths of the test strip of the first disposable;

wherein the first disposable includes a capillary passage;

wherein said drawing the body fluid into the test strip includes lowering the capillary passage into contact with the body fluid on the surface of the skin; and

wherein said contacting the electrical leads occurs as a result of said lowering the capillary passage.

136. (New) The method of claim 135, wherein:

the lancing device includes a pusher;

the pusher has the electrical leads;

said lowering the capillary passage into contact with the body fluid on the surface of the skin includes pushing the capillary passage down with the pusher; and

said contacting the electrical leads occurs as a result of said pushing the capillary passage down with the pusher.

137. (New) The method of claim 135, further comprising:
loading the first disposable into the lancing device; and
said contacting the electrical leads occurs after said loading the first disposable.

138. (New) The method of claim 137, wherein said contacting the electrical leads occurs after said cutting the incision.

139. (New) The method of claim 135, wherein:
said cutting the incision includes
firing the first disposable with the lancet, the test strip, and the capillary passage against the skin at the region, and
retracting the first disposable from the skin;
the lancet, the test strip, and the capillary passage of the first disposable move together as a single unit during said firing and said retracting; and
said lowering the capillary passage into contact with the body fluid on the surface of the skin occurs after said retracting.

140. (New) The method of claim 135, further comprising:
detecting a drop of the body fluid from the incision is sufficient for said analyzing with a drop sensing mechanism in the lancing device.

141. (New) The method of claim 140, further comprising:
alerting a user of drop sufficiency with the lancing device.

142. (New) The method of claim 140, wherein said detecting the drop includes electrically detecting the drop.

143. (New) The method of claim 140, wherein said detecting the drop includes optically detecting the drop.

144. (New) The method of claim 135, wherein said expressing includes pressing the stimulator sleeve against the skin.

145. (New) The method of claim 135, wherein the region of the skin where nerve density is low and supply of body fluid is low is an earlobe or a limb.